

Message Text

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62/12

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7302

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM, UN, CI

SUBJ: CHILEAN REACTION TO UNHRC RESOLUTION

REF: SANTIAGO 1275

1. DURING PRESS CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 19 FOREIGN MINISTER CARVAJAL ATTACKED UNHRC RESOLUTION BUT OBSERVED THAT IT DID NOT DIRECTLY CONDEMN THE GOC, WAS SIMILAR TO UNGA RESOLUTION AND DID NOT CALL FOR SANCTIONS. REACTION TO ADOPTION OF KENNEDY AMENDMENT IN SENATE HAS OVERSHADOWED MEDIA PLAY ON GENEVA RESOLUTION.

2. CARVAJAL DESCRIBED RESOLUTION AS "LIBELOUS ACCUSATIONS RELAYING EXCLUSIVELY UPON STATEMENTS MADE ABROAD BY COMMON CRIMINALS AND THOSE FLEEING JUSTICE, AND CONTAINING LIES THAT COULD ONLY BE THOUGHT UP BY SICK MINDS." NOTING THAT NUMBER OF TRADITIONAL FRIENDS HAD VOTED AGAINST CHILE HE ASKED: "FOR HOW LONG MUST CHILE BE SADDLED WITH THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS OF THE WESTERN DEMOCRACIES?" FOREIGN MINISTER NOTED HOWEVER THAT RESOLUTION MENTIONED GOC'S EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR DETAINEES.

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3. PRESS HAS BEEN FOLLOWING GENEVA MEETING WITH WIRE
SERVICE REPORTS AND LOCAL STORIES, BUT KENNEDY AMENDMENT
FUROR DIVERTED INTEREST FROM UNHRC RESOLUTION.

4. COMMENT: CARVAJAL'S PUBLIC STATEMENT REFLECTS
ANNOYANCE AND BITTERNESS, ALSO A DEEP BREATH OF RELIEF
THAT IT WAS NOT WORSE.
POPPER

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